

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 2-3, 12-13 and 21-22 are cancelled. Claims 1, 4-11 and 14-20 remain pending in this application and, as amended herein, are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 4-7, 11 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Utsonomiya (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0066113). Applicants submit that the claims are patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of Utsonomiya.

Independent claims 1, 8, 11 and 18 have each been amended to more clearly show the differences between the claimed features and the relied on art. No new matter has been added by these changes. Support for these changes is found at, e.g., Figs. 3-4, 7-8 and 9B and pgs. 31-32 of the specification.

As amended herein, claim 1 recites:

wherein the recordation control process executing section is adapted to store continue information, representative of whether recording a same content continuously to a next piece of reproduction procedure information, to storage domains corresponding to individual pieces of reproduction procedure information, and to store end information other than the continue information, representative of whether a piece of reproduction procedure information is a final piece of reproduction procedure information, in a data storage domain corresponding to an individual piece of reproduction procedure information.

(Emphasis added.) The relied on sections of Utsonomiya neither disclose nor suggest end information other than continue information, representative of whether a piece of reproduction procedure information is a final piece of reproduction procedure information. Moreover, the relied on sections of Utsonomiya neither disclose nor suggest to store end information other than

continue information, representative of whether a piece of reproduction procedure information is a final piece of reproduction procedure information, in a data storage domain corresponding to an individual piece of reproduction procedure information.

Rather, such sections of Utsonomiya describe (i) consecutive recording information indicating which recorder/player subsequent contents will be consecutively recorded to (see ¶¶ [0047] and [0056]), (ii) in the event that recording stop instructions have been given, the recording processing routine ends (see ¶¶ [0054] and [0058]), and (iii) in the event that there is not sufficient available capacity in the disk and there is no information stored for a consecutive recorder, recording is stopped (see ¶ [0055]). These sections of the reference are not concerned with end information other than the consecutive recording information.

It follows, for at least the above reasons, that the relied on sections of Utsonomiya do not disclose or suggest the combination defined in claim 1 and therefore do not anticipate the claim.

Independent claim 11 calls for features similar to those set out in the above excerpt of claim 1 and therefore is patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of Utsonomiya for at least the reasons set out above regarding claim 1.

Claims 4-7 depend from claim 1, and claims 14-17 depend from claim 11. Therefore, each of these claims is distinguishable over the relied on sections of Utsonomiya at least for the same reasons as its parent claim.

Claims 8-10 and 18-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Utsonomiya in view of Koyama (U.S. Patent No. 6,122,010). Applicants submit that the

claims are patentably distinguishable over the relied on sections of the references.

Independent claims 8 and 18 each call for features similar to those set out in the above excerpt of claim 1. Each of these claims is therefore distinguishable over the relied on sections of Utsonomiya for at least the reasons set out above regarding claim 1.

The relied-on sections of Koyama do not overcome the deficiencies of the relied-on sections of Utsonomiya.

Claims 9-10 depend from claim 8, and claims 19-20 depend from claim 18. Therefore, each of the claims is distinguishable over the relied-on sections of Utsonomiya and Koyama for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and 103(a).

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

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If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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